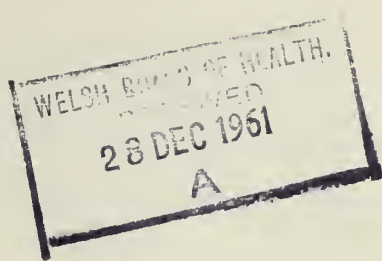


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MONTGOMERY BOROUGH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
for the year 1960.

Montgomery Borough Council 1960



Councillor D.P. Davies (Mayor).
Alderman A. Reg. Jones,
Alderman J.D.K. Lloyd,
Councillors W.H . Gornall,
E.L. Griffiths,
R.W.P. Humphreys,
G.W. Jellings,
R.B. Jones.

Town Clerk Philip E. Jones D.P.A. to 31st August 1960
and Edward J. Lloyd A.C.C.S., F.B.S.C., from
1st September 1960.

Medical Officer of Health - Elinor M. Greville M.R.C.S. (Eng)
L.R.C.P. (Lond) D.P.H. (Liverpool)
Appointed 1st May 1960.

Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector - H.J. Sleigh.

Chief Financial Officer - G.H. Greenhouse.

To the Montgomery Borough Council:

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the Public Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the area during 1960.

The statistics of the Borough compare most favourably with those for the county and for England and Wales.

The population increased, the Death Rate decreased, and the Birth Rate, although lower than in 1959 was still higher than the County and National Rate.

Infant, Still-birth and Maternal Mortality Rates were non-existent and deaths from coronary and other heart diseases, cancer of the lung and tuberculosis were notably conspicuous by their absence.

In the field of infectious diseases, only one namely whooping cough caused any concern and this manifested itself in a mild outbreak during June and July.

The Borough has cause to congratulate itself on the health of the district once again, since there were only 6 deaths; the majority occurred over 60 years of age.

The vaccination programme against tuberculosis and poliomyelitis continued; poliomyelitis vaccination being offered to persons under the age of 40 years. The highest percentage registration for poliomyelitis vaccination occurred in the 1953-1958 age group; the lowest in the 1920- 1932 age group. The Registrar General's provisional figures for 1960 showed a decline in the number of deaths from this disease.

Cont / Over.

Regulations (Public Health Infectious Diseases Amendment Regulation, 1960) providing for the notification by General Practitioners to Medical Officers of Health of all cases of Anthrax, came into operation as from 1st December 1960.

Once again, my thanks are due to the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor Mr. Sleight and to his staff for their co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ELINOR M. GREVILLE.

Medical Officer of Health.

November 1961.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District - 3390 acres.
 Estimated mid-year population - 890.
 Number of inhabited houses - 317 (according to Rate Books)
 Rateable Value - £ 6060.
 Sum represented by a penny rate - £ 23. 8. 10.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	7.	8.	15.
Illegitimate.	1.	-.	1.
Total.	8.	8.	16.

Stillbirths - Nil.

Infant Deaths

Under 1 year of age. - Nil.
 Under 4 weeks of age. - Nil.
 Under 1 week of age. - Nil.

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	4.	2.	6.

Rates.

Birth Rate (per 1,000 population).

(a) Crude 17.09
 (b) Adjusted..... 19.77
 (comparability figure: 1.10)

Illegitimate Live-births

% of total live births..... 6.3

Stillbirth Rate. Nil.

Infant Mortality Rate..... Nil.

Perinatal Mortality Rate..... Nil.

Neo-natal Mortality Rate..... Nil.

Cont / Over.

Death Rate. (per 1,000 population).

- (a) Crude..... 6.74.
 (b) Adjusted..... 5.59.
 (comparability figure 0.83)

Maternal Mortality Rate..... Nil.

The following table shows the chief statistics for the last three years for the Borough

	1958.	1959.	1960
Population.	870.	880.	890.
Birth Rate (Crude)	18.39.	22.73	17.98
Infant Mortality Rate.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Stillbirth Rate.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Death Rate (Crude)	12.64	10.23	6.74

Comparative Statistics (1960)

	Mont. Borough.	Mont. D.C.	Eng. & Wales.
Birth Rate (adjusted)	19.77	15.76	12.1
Death Rate (adjusted)	5.59	11.47	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate.	Nil	13.0	21.7
Still Birth Rate.	Nil	24.9	19.7

These figures demonstrate clearly how favourable is the comparison of the Borough Statistics with those of the County and the Country as a whole.

The population continues to increase, in spite of a fall in the Birth Rate this year, this rise is probably attributable to the declining Death Rate.

The 1960 deaths stood at the figure of 6 and the births at the figure of 16, thus resulting in a NATURAL increase of the population of 10.

There were no infant deaths, or stillbirths in the Borough during the last 3 years and it is worthy of note that the Infant Mortality Rate for the County in 1960, is the lowest ever recorded.

All the statistics for the Borough compare most favourably with those for the County and England and Wales.

The Causes of Death were :-

	Male	Female	Total.
Malignant Neoplasm Breast.	-	1.	1.
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	1.	-	1.
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1.	1.	2.
Bronchitis.	1.	-	1.
Congenital Malformations (Colon)	1.	-	1.
Total.	4.	2.	6.

Malignant disease and vascular lesions of the nervous system, together were the cause of the majority of deaths during the year. Coronary heart disease other heart diseases and cancer of the lung were notably conspicuous by their absence and there were no deaths from tuberculosis of any form.

The Ages at which death occurred were:-

<u>Ages.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
50-60 years.	-	2	2
70-80 years.	3	-	3
80-90 years.	1	-	1
Total.	4	2	6

The Average Age at Death Was

Total M & F.	- 70 years.
Male	- 71 years.
Female	- 57 years.

The two female deaths occurred in the 50-60 years of age group and were caused by

- (a) Cancer of the Breast.
- (b) Cerebral Thrombosis.

SECTION B.General Health Services.

The County Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the personal health services of the district.

SECTION CSanitary Circumstances of the Area.(1) Water

The supply to the Borough consists of springs and two boreholes with diesel pumps together with storage reservoirs and mains. The supply was satisfactory during the year though it was necessary to overhaul the pumps and to provide a new engine. The Montgomeryshire Water Order formed a Water Board that will take over the Council's responsibility for water supply from the 1st April 1961. The Council supported this although they can claim to have served the Borough well in the past and the town itself is adequately served.

During the year negotiations took place with Forden Rural District Council, who, in preparing a scheme for their district felt that there would be advantages if they could use the Borough's large reservoir which has a capacity of 400,000 gallons. The Council agreed to this. It would lead to abandoning the present source of supply but would ensure more water being available for the Borough and would include mainlaying in some of the outer ward that is not served at present.

Six water samples have been taken, four from the mains supply were satisfactory and two from private sources were unsatisfactory.

(2)(a) Drainage and Sewerage

Only Tanymur Housing Estate has a satisfactory sewerage system. The remainder of the town discharges untreated sewage into open ditches. During the year the Council pressed their Engineers to complete plans for a treatment plant and by the end of the year a scheme was ready to be advertised for tenders.

(b) Rivers and Streams.

Apart from the conditions in the town every effort is made to prevent pollution and in every case where water closets are installed in the outlying district the provision of a septic tank is enforced.

Cont / Over.

(3) Closet Accommodation.

Pails are collected at night from 22 properties and contents buried. No action was taken by the Council to enforce substitution by water closets because it would aggravate the present pollution of ditches but during the year two properties were converted by owners.

(4) Public Cleansing.

Refuse is collected fortnightly by contract with Forden Rural District Council and disposal is by tipping on land owned by the Council approximately one mile from the town. Collection is now made in a properly designed vehicle which has minimised the dust nuisance and nuisance from falling refuse

(5) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The district has been inspected systematically and on complaint. No formal action was necessary.

(6) Shops and Offices.

All have been inspected and no action was necessary.

(7) Camping.

There are no camping sites in the Borough.

(8) Smoke Abatement.

No nuisances from smoke occurred during the year.

(9) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are none in the Borough.

(10) Vermin.

There were no cases of insect infestation during the year. A Rodent Officer is employed jointly with Forden Rural District Council, Welshpool Borough and Llanfyllin Rural District Council. During the year he made 54 visits to premises and treated 10 private dwellings 4 business premises 2 farms and the refuse tip. The following materials were used 52 lbs. sausage rusk, 29 lbs. oat meal, 15 oxs. Sorex 1, 10 oxs. Sorex 5, and 1 lb. Zinc Phosphide.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts.	-	8.
Number of houses in respect of which notices were served	-	NIL.
Number of houses in respect of which Closing or Demolition Orders were made.	-	NIL.
Number of houses improved by means of Standard Grant	-	1.
Number of houses improved by means of Discretionary Grant	-	4.
Number of houses built by private enterprise during the year-		NIL.
Number of houses built by Council during the year	-	NIL.

Factories

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number of Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupier Prosecuted.
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(1) Factories in which
Section 1-6 are to be
enforced by Local Authorities.

-	-	-	-
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(2) Factories not included
in (1) in which Section 7
is enforced by Local
Authorities.

6	4	-	-
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(3) Other premises in which
Section 7 is enforced by the
Local Authority (excluding
out-workers premises)

-	-	-	-
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Total.....	6	4	-	-
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No defects were found necessitating any action.

There are no outworkers in the Borough.

SECTION E.INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk There are no dairies within the District which is served by outside retailers. Producer-retailers are inspected by the Ministry. All of the milk retailed is designated and the service is quite satisfactory.

Meat and other Foods.

There is one privately owned slaughterhouse in the Borough. This fell far short of modern standards and by reason of the Slaughterhouse Act the owner decided to modernise the building. Stabling adjoining the slaughterhouse was repaired and adapted by the owner to provide slaughtering facilities in keeping with present day standards with the result that at the end of the year there was a small modern slaughterhouse, conforming with the regulations, adequate for the needs of the Borough. The Council, in their slaughterhouse report, recommended that this be retained and the report was accepted by the Ministry. All of the animals slaughtered are inspected. The quality of meat sold in the shops is high.

All shops and vans where food is sold are kept in a clean state.

Carcases inspected during the year

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
1. Number killed.	182.	Nil	Nil	1339	227	Nil
2. Number inspected.	182	Nil	Nil	1339	227	Nil
3. All diseases except tuberculosis & cysticercosis.						
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	16.	Nil	Nil	35	Nil	Nil
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis & cysticercosis.	8.8	Nil	Nil	2.61	Nil	Nil.

Cont / Over.

Cattle
excluding cows. Cows. Calves Lambs. Pigs. Horses.

4. Tuberculosis only.

(a) Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

5. Cysticercosis.

(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Generalised & Totally condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.

The small amount of meat condemned is mainly by reason of the fact that young animals only are slaughtered and casualty animals are refused.

The condemnation is almost entirely liver fluke.

No meat marking scheme under Part 111 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 is in force in the district.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL.

37 cases of infectious disease were notified in the Borough in 1960 and were distributed as follows:-

Whooping Cough	-	29.
Measles	-	6.
Erysipelas	-	2.

A mild epidemic of whooping cough occurred in the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the year and the age groups chiefly affected were the 3-4 years and 6-7 years age groups..

Half the number affected were known to have been immunized, but two did not complete the course of injections; of the remainder nine had not been immunized at all and in six further cases who were thought to have been immunized no records were available.

The following table shows the Age, Sex and Seasonal Distribution of the cases:-

Age Groups.	Whooping Cough.				Total M & F. 2. 3. Quarters.
	Male.		Female		
	Quarter		Quarter		
	2.	3.	2.	3.	
0-1 yrs.	-	-	-	2	2
1-2 yrs.	-	-	-	1	1
2-3 yrs.	-	-	1	1	2
3-4 yrs.	1	1	2	2	6
4-5 yrs.	-	2	-	1	3
5-6 yrs.	1	-	1	1	3
6-7 yrs.	-	2	1	2	5
7-8 yrs.	-	2	-	-	2
8-9 yrs.	1	-	-	2	3
9-10 yrs.	-	-	-	1	1
30-40 yrs.	-	1	-	-	1
Totals.	3	8	5	13	29.

Cont / Over.

Tuberculosis

There were no notifications of tuberculosis during 1960.

Mass Radiography Service.

The mobile unit again visited Welshpool during 1960, and the findings are appended below. The figures include, but do not specifically relate to cases drawn from the Borough.

374 people were examined.

Analysis Showing Type of Examinee.

<u>Type of Examinee.</u>	<u>Welshpool and District.</u>
General population volunteers.	249.
General Practitioners Referrals.	20.
Civil Servants and Local Gov. Officers.	67.
School Children.	8.
Teaching Staff.	13.
Students.	2.
Hospital Staff (General)	2.
Factory Groups (non - industrial)	13.
Total.	374

Details of Abnormalities Discovered.

" New " cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	1.
Healed primary Tuberculosis	2.
Healed post primary tuberculosis	3.
Abnormalities of the bony thorax.	1.
Acquired cardiac abnormalities.	1.
Miscellaneous (foreign body in lung)	1.
Failed to attend chest clinic.	1.
	10.
Negative after investigation at clinic.	2.
	12.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

All " leavers" were tested, and 244 pupils at Welshpool High and Secondary Schools were tested; and of these 127 were found to require vaccination. 126 were vaccinated, only one did not accept vaccination.

As these children join the 15-20 years and 20 - 25 years age groups, the rate of decline of respiratory tuberculosis should increase.

Anti-poliomyelitis vaccination.

During 1960 anti-poliomyelitis vaccination was extended to include the " under 40's". The percentage of children born between 1943 and 1960 who had received two or more injections at the end of 1960 was 85.70% being the highest figure for all Welsh Local Authorities (National:- 76.0%)

The total number of anti-poliomyelitis inoculations given in the County during 1960 was 9,174